

VAMPI
#97

WARREN
MAGAZINE

JULY 1981

VAMPIRELLA

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**VAMPIRELLA'S
LIFE HANGS
IN THE
BALANCE
WHEN THE
MINIONS OF
HELL RISE
FROM THE
GRAVE...**



...IN THE "ARMY OF THE DEAD!"

STAR WARS THE MOST EXCITING NEW MODELS AVAILABLE!

NEW!



MILLENNIUM FALCON

THE MILLENNIUM FALCON Han Solo's deadly freighter-fighter is reproduced in all the incredible detail lavished on it by its creator John Dykstra. This enormous 18"x13" model has an illuminated detailed control room, moveable laser turrets with full interior detail, illuminated rocket exhausts, hinged entrance hatch and ramp, retractable landing gear, moveable radar antenna and the sealed figures of Luke Skywalker, Han Solo and Chewbacca! Build this authentic Star Wars design spaceship. 2"C" batteries not included and assembly is required! #24238/\$14.50

IMPERIAL TROOP TRANSPORTER

IMPERIAL TROOP TRANSPORTER The electronic "hoser craft" troop transporter of the Imperial Stormtroopers is ready to swoop down on unsuspecting Rebel and Alliance bases! This transporter carries 11 action figures, has 6 special electronic sounds that simulate the real sounds from Star Wars such as the laser, engine and battle noises plus the voices of C-3PO, Stormtroopers and R2-D2's beeps! Each sound is actuated by its own button. The front hatch opens to reveal a detailed control area with seats for 2 troopers. The manual laser gun and the rotating radar dish work in tandem. 6 aida compartments hold captured prisoners and a rear compartment imprisons droids. This model comes with two prisoner immobilization units that fit on the heads of action figures so they can be brainwashed by the Empire! This highly detailed kit is molded in high impact gray and red plastic! Order Now! Action figures not included. Uses one "C" battery, not included. Assembly required! #25195/\$21.00



NEW!



MILLENNIUM FALCON

OPEN-UP MODEL

MILLENNIUM FALCON SPACESHIP This big, sophisticated, "open up" model of Han Solo's famous Millennium Falcon is a gigantic model that's a whopping 17"x8"x23"! Pushbutton activates the "battle alert" siren when enemy TIE fighters are in the area. Cockpit has a flip open canopy with seats for Han Solo and Chewbacca. The radar dish manually swivels 360°. This enormous model has retractable landing gear, a folding entrance ramp. Rear deck panel lifts to give access to the rear cabin where tables and chairs are ready for a game of space chess. The cabin floor lifts away to reveal a secret compartment to hide the action figures from searches by the Imperial Stormtroopers. Fit your action figure into the command chair below the laser canon which clicks as it follows enemy craft. The Millennium Falcon has all the detail of the original ship. Action figures are sold separately. 2"AA" batteries not included, assembly required! #26194/\$37.80

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

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traps Vampirella in
Hellhole, Arizona!

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ST. KNIGHTIs Thor to be the
human sacrifice of an
evil, mystic cult?

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PANTHAPantha fights for her
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night of the zombies!

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the biggest legal prob-
lem in the system!

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WORMBRANDWormbrand was just
like his dad! He was
built to be that way!

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VAMPIRELLA

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Vampi's Scarlet Letters

VAMPIRELLA #95 provided one of the most pleasurable comic repasts I've had in the three years I've been collecting. The **VAMPIRELLA** story, "Flague of Vampire," was an inspired collaboration between **Rudy Nebres** and **Rich Margopoulos** which left me breathless. However, the **Pantha** story, "Reflections in Blood" was no more than adequate. "The Fox" stunk, to put it mildly! Ye Gods, how could something as boring as that slither into the magazine?

What made the issue great was the wonderful, splendiferous **Cassandra St. Knight**! "The Initiation" deserved all of the sixteen pages it got, and more! Cess, due to the excellent artwork by **Auraleon**, was the most beautiful, the most seductive, and the most alluring female character I have ever seen in any comic of any kind! **Cassandra** has long since proven that she is a first class super heroine!

KEYTH BLAZE
(Address withheld)

A few months ago I wrote a letter terming issue #92 pure and unadulterated garbage. I still think it was. But I am grateful to see that it did not mark the end of quality in **VAMPIRELLA**! Issue #95 was a gem! It sparkled with the brilliance of a jewel as I added it to my collection. A terrific cover by **Ken Kelly** was but a prelude! A truly voluptuous contents page illustrated by the master, **Jose Gonzales**, immediately followed the **Kelly** cover. The issue was filled with great stories that were beautifully illustrated. I was so dazzled I even began to enjoy the **Captain Company** ads!

The **Vampirella** story demonstrated that **Rich Margopoulos** is definitely capable of handling the **Drakulone** extraordinaire. **Rudy Nebres'** art is definitely improving, though **Vampi's** face is still all wrong!!! **Cassandra St. Knight** wears bikinis that defy the laws of physics! She kills robots with mental blasts when we all know that robots do not have brains, as such. How could a brain blast kill a brainless creature? The **Pantha** story succeeded despite being laden with an old, hackneyed plot, due to the superlative efforts of **Jose Ortiz'** artwork. Finally, I think you have the real makings of a tremendous serial with "The Fox." Its compelling art and terrific story line show great promise! Keep "The Fox" going as long as possible, and I'll never say another negative word about **Warren Publishing** again!

REX JOYNER
South Bend, Ind.

For the first time in a long time I liked the entire issue of **VAMPIRELLA**! The cover by **Ken Kelly** on issue #95 was superb! Where in his imagination does he find those nightmare creatures? Seeing poor **VAMPI** tied up and at the mercy of that hideous thing made my blood run cold. The **VAMPI** story was more than good, it was excellent! **Rich Margopoulos** kept the story moving along at a taut, tight clip and **Rudy Nebres'** art made it dynamite!

I think **Cassandra St. Knight** is a super new character! I look forward to seeing more of her stories in the pages of every **VAMPIRELLA**! And then of course there's **Pantha**. Will **Adam Van Helsing** be back in the **VAMPIRELLA** series? I hope so. I was very surprised to see **Conrad Van Helsing** turn up in the **Pantha** series.

I would also like to know what's happening to **Pendragon**? I do agree with **Cryssie** that **Pen** sounds evil. I hope you're not going to change his personality because of his daughter's death. I wouldn't want to see a nice old man like **Pendragon** turn into an angry, embittered, evil person. And one more thing: "The Fox" be a series or merely a three part story? I think it would make an interesting series.

LISA VERNON
Binghamton, N.Y.

Well **Lisa**, we were able to grant two of your wishes! In this very issue of **Vampirella**, **Adam** and **Pantha** turn up in a superb **Vampirella** story illustrated by one of **Vampi's** classic artists: **Gonzalo Mayo**! **Cassandra St. Knight** will indeed be a regular visitor to the pages of **Vampirella** and **The Fox** will have five initial installments.

I have a few bones to pick with the editors of **Warren Magazines**! Why are there no black characters in a **Warren** publication? This issue came up way back in **VAMPIRELLA** #89 in a letter concerning your **Pantha** character. **Pantha** started out as black and magically became white! **VAMPIRELLA** #69 appeared in 1978. I'm sure the artists, writers and editors have had more than enough time to fill in those pale spots with a little ink. Don't black readers deserve to see a few black characters from time to time? Don't tell me "It's not as easy as you think to create new characters." I've heard it before. I was ten years old when the black **Pantha** first appeared. How long must I wait before I see her like again?

LEE DAVIS
Buffalo, N.Y.

VAMPIRELLA #96, was a superb, excellent, fantastic, far-out issue! **Rich Margopoulos**, as we all know by now, is the best **Warren** writer since **Bill DuBay**. He keeps the reader in suspense. However, any effects he may plan with his pen, **Rudy Nebres** ruins with his brush. **Nebres** is a truly crappy, sloppy artist. "Flague of Vampires" was a fine story. How could the editor let **Nebres** ruin it? **Cassandra St. Knight** is a bore and a waste of time. **Pantha**, on the other hand, is wonderful. Her stories are always full of excitement. "The Fox" was great. I am chomping at the bit with anticipation waiting for the conclusion. I loved the cover by **Ken Kelly**. That squid creature was deliciously frightening. I wish I could have seen **Vampirella** beat the heck out of it.

Now, if so many people are complaining about **Nebres**, why do you keep him? I'm begging you: please let **Jose Ortiz**, or **Gonzalo Mayo** have their shot, or, the living legend himself... **Jose Gonzales**!

NICHOLAS BARRACATO
Staten Island, N.Y.

The contents page illustration in **VAMPIRELLA** #95 was simply the best ever! I have been a fan of **Jose Gonzales** for quite some time, but he once again managed to knock my socks off with his superlative artwork. The detail, shading, pose, and mood that comprise a **Gonzales** artwork cannot be surpassed anywhere else in the fantasy art field. The man is a genius!

I very much enjoyed "The Fox". It was very well illustrated and composed. Of course it would help to understand the Oriental mind in order to fully appreciate the story.

I have nothing but the best to say about all of **Warren's** publications. With each issue they all seem to improve in quality. Writing, illustrating, editing-top notch in all respects, even down to the fact that my issues always arrive in mint condition. My compliments and my thanks.

RONALD A. MAWHINNEY
Janesville, WI

**Vampi's
Scarlet Letters**
C/O WARREN PUBLISHING
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"IT WAS TERRIFYING! I WAS STANDING IN MY ROOM ONE MOMENT! THE NEXT, I WAS GRAPPLING WITH TWO WINGED DEMONS, HAULED BEFORE A RAVING MADMAN!"

ATTEND MY WORDS, VAMPIRELLA! I AM BROTHER SHADRACH, NEWLY ANOINTED ANTI-POPE OF THE COUNCIL OF WIZARDS!

THE ONE CALLED PENDRAGON IS MY HELPLESS CAPTIVE! IF YOU WISH TO SPARE HIS WORTHLESS LIFE, THEN I SUGGEST YOU'D BEST GO TO HELLHOLE!

HELLHOLE? YOU MEAN THAT OLD DESERT GHOST TOWN? WAIT! I STILL HAVE MORE QUESTIONS! DON'T FADE OUT ON ME! DON'T...!

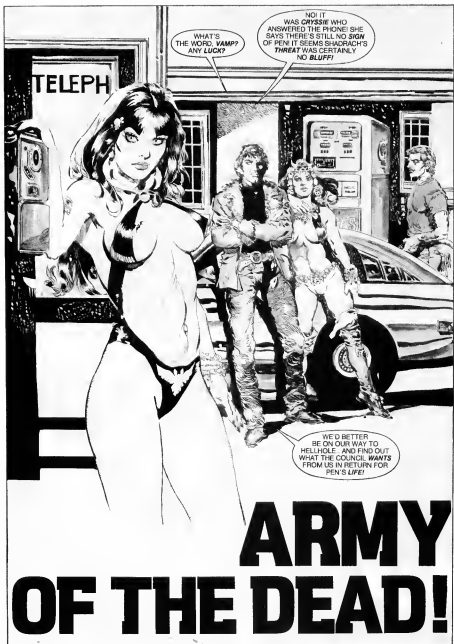
*SEE VAMPIRELLA #89

VAMPIRELLA









WHAT'S
THE WORD, VAMP?
ANY LUCK?

NO! IT
WAS CRYSSIE WHO
ANSWERED THE PHONE! SHE
SAYS THERE'S STILL NO SIGN
OF PEN! IT SEEMS SHADRACH'S
THREAT WAS CERTAINLY
NO BLUFF!

WE'D BETTER
BE ON OUR WAY TO
HELLHOLE - AND FIND OUT
WHAT THE COUNCIL WANTS
FROM US IN RETURN FOR
PEN'S LIFE!

ARMY OF THE DEAD!







NOW
WHAT'S FUR-
FACE
UP TO? HE'S BEAT-
ING HIS FEET UP
THAT CLIFF WALL.
FASTER'N A
BAT OUTTA
HELL!



UH...
NO OFFENSE,
VAMPI!

NONE
TAKEN! LET'S GO,
ADAM...



WE'VE GOT
TO FIND THAT WEREWOLF!
YOU STAY HERE AND
WATCH OVER MY CAR,
PANTH!

I'VE GOT
A HOT FLASH FOR YOU,
VAMPI! THAT WAS NO
WEREWOLF. IT WAS A
BRUJO! THERE'S A
DIFFERENCE!

*PRONOUNCED BREW HO



AND WHO
OR WHAT'S A
BRUJO?

IT'S A
TERM IN ANTHROPO-
LOGY FOR A SHAMAN,
A MEDICINE MAN. ESPE-
CIALLY ONE WHO CAN
TRANSFORM INTO A
WOLF AT WILL!



I DON'T
KNOW WHY THAT SHAPE-
SHIFTER RAN FROM US... BUT
MAYBE WE CAN ENLIST HIS
HELP AGAINST THE COUN-
CIL. IF WE'RE
LUCKY!



THAT
CROSSED MY MIND TOO
BUT I DON'T THINK THAT
INDIAN WILL AID US
ADAM!

THANKS
FOR THE HAND, HONEY-
LIPS. ER, VAMPI! AND
WHY WON'T HE, MAY
I ASK?



BECAUSE
UNLESS I MISS MY
GUESS, THAT'S HELLHOLE
DOWN THERE! OUR WOLFMAN
ALREADY WORKS FOR
THE COUNCIL OF
WIZARDS!

OH...!





JEEZ!
ALMOST LOST MY
FOOTING! A CITY GIRL
LIKE I CAN'T CUT
OUT FOR CLIMBING
SHEER CLIFFS!



THERE
THEY ARE... STILL
ALIVE AND IN ONE PIECE
CIRCLING AROUND TO
THAT DISTANT GHOST
TOWN!



ONLY
ONE WAY TO REACH
THEM IN TIME
USE MY ALIEN GENES
TO SWITCH MY CAT-
BODY!



AND
SPRINT DOWN
THE MOUNTAIN-
SIDE! SHOULD'VE
DONE THIS
SOONER!

GOTTA
REALLY POUR ON
THE SPEED!



THEY'RE
STILL A GOOD
TWO MILES
AWAY!



WAIT!
THERE'S SOME
INVISIBLE MAGIC
BARRIER ON THE
TOWN'S BORDER,
FORCING ME TO
TURN HUMAN
AGAIN!

MUST
BE THE COUNCIL'S
DOING!



CRIPES!
THERE'S A GIANT
SHADOW SWEEPING
STRAIGHT AT THEM! AND
MY THROAT'S TOO DRY
TO SHOUT!

THERE'S
NOT A DAMN THING I
CAN DO!



ADAM AND
VAMPS... THEY'RE
DEAD MEAT!

TO BE CONTINUED !

prologue



I'LL HAVE A FROZEN DAIRURI!

AND I THINK I'LL HAVE A ROOT BEER!



IN ALL HONESTY, TAROT, I'M A LITTLE LEERY OF COMING HERE!

WHY'S THAT? 'CAUSE I'M SEVENTEEN AND MIGHT GET CARDED?

NAH! I DON'T FEEL SAFE GOING OUT ANYMORE!



EVERY TIME I TURNED AROUND IN THE PAST WEEK, I'VE BEEN TRIPPING OVER THE CIA, KGB, AND EVERY OTHER NOODLE IN THE ALPHABET SOUP OF ORGANIZED INITIALS!

AND, I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE MEDIA! IF THEY GET WIND OF SANDRA'S ESPIONAGE TIES WITH MR. DARK, IT COULD BLOW HER CAREER!



AHH! THE TRUTH WILL OUT! IF CASSANDRA GOES DOWN THE TUBES, SO DO YOU AS HER LOYAL MANAGER! BUT I DON'T THINK SHE CARES!

DON'T YOU SEE, HARRY. SHE ONLY DOES THINGS FOR HER OWN ENDS!



BEING A STAGE MENTALIST HELPS PEOPLE ACCEPT THE KALI YUGA* SO SHE DOES IT!

AND IF WORKING FOR THE CIA HELPS FURTHER HER GOALS SOMEHOW, WELL, SHE'LL DO THAT TOO!

*OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AGE OF AQUARIUS!



YEAH, BUT IF SAM SURVIVES BEING A WALKING TARGET FOR UNCLE SAM... THERE'S STILL A LOT OF NEW YORK CRAZIES FOR HER TO CONTEND WITH!

NOW THAT THEY'VE SNUFFED LENNON IT'S OPEN SEASON ON CELEBRITIES YOU KNEW WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME SHE APPEARED!

*SEE VAMPIRELLA #103



CASSANDRA ST. KNIGHT



MANY FACES OF GOD









...UNTIL, MANY MINUTES LATER HE FINALLY REACHED HIS OBJECTIVE: THE PENTHOUSE SUITE OF CASSANDRA ST. KNIGHT



HARRY'S WONDERING EYES SAW CASSANDRA ST. KNIGHT FLOATING IN MID-AIR, APPARENTLY CONVERSING WITH THREE SPECTRAL FIGURES!



AS IF HARRY'S PRESENCE HAD DISTURBED THE COSMOS, THE ROOM'S SOFT EFFULGENT GLOW DIMMED AND THE FIGURES VANISHED!

AS THE SILVER-TRESSED PSYCHIC GENTLY LOWERED HERSELF TO THE FLOOR, HER GREEN EYES SNAPPED OPEN, INSTANTLY ALERT!



WE MUST HURRY, HARRY! TAROT'S LIFE IS IN JEOPARDY!

HUH?! HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT?

ARE YOU GOING TO PLAGUE ME WITH SENSELESS QUESTIONS OR HELP ME ACT? NOW... MOVE!

NADRI! WARM UP THE SEDAN! THE LUNACULTISTS HAVE AN ASHRAM* OUT ON A LONG ISLAND ESTATE



AND I THINK WE OWE THEM A VISIT!

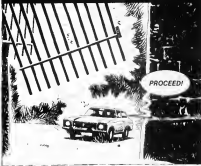
*A TEMPLE

A LITTLE MORE THAN AN HOUR LATER, THE FRANTIC TRIO ARRIVED IN THE HUSHED PRECINCTS OF LONG ISLAND'S FABLED GOLD COAST!



THE ESTATE'S GATE'S LOCKED! WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

ST. KNIGHT UNLEASHED A MIND-BOLT OF SUCH INCREDIBLE POWER THAT THE GATE WAS RIPPED COMPLETELY OFF ITS HINGES!



PROCEED!

MEANWHILE, BEHIND THE FORBIDDING STONE WALLS OF THE ASHRAM-ESTATE, MASTER LUNA PREPARED TO SACRIFICE THE STILL UNCONSCIOUS TAROT!



MASTER LUNA
IT SOMEWHAT BOTHERS ME TWO OF OUR MEMBERS USED FORCE TO BRING THE GYPSY GIRL HERE TO JUDGEMENT!

TUSH CHILD!



HER
ASTRAL POWERS
WILL CONVINCE
NON-INITIATES
TO EMULATE
HER WARPED
BELIEFS!

THAT IS
HOW DEMONS SLYLY
WORK! BELIEVE ME,
SHE IS A THREAT
TO OUR HOLY
ORDER!



THE LORD ONCE
APPEARED TO ME, CHILD.
IN A VISION AND PRO-
CLAIMED ME HIS MOR-
TAL SPOKESMAN!

HE TOLD
ME HE WILL EX-
CUSE TRICKERY
EVEN VIOLENCE
TO ADVANCE OUR
SACRED CAUSE!



NOW, MY
CHILDREN OF
PURITY, PUT THE
DEMON-WOMAN TO
THE TORCH!

NO!



WHO
ARE YOU? YOU
HAVE NO
RIGHT—!

YOU DARE
SPEAK TO ME OF
RIGHTS, HYPO-
CRITE?

I AM
ST. KNIGHT, AND
I'VE COME FOR MY
DISCIPLE!



SEE, MY
FOLLOWERS? EVIL
FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD
IS SO STRONG, IT CAN
EVEN INTRUDE UPON THE
DIVINE GROUND OF
OUR TEMPLE EN-
CLAVE!



HE'S A
BABBLING PSYCHO-
PATH! I MUST RE-
SCUE TAROT.

BUT IN A
FASHION THAT FREES
HIS ADHERENTS OF
THEIR BRAIN-
WASHING!



AS A SPUTTERING TORCH WAS PUT TO THE WOOD AT TAROT'S
FEET, THE VOLUPTUOUS MYSTIC REACHED OUT WITH HER
MIND!



THEN, FROM OUT OF THE PAGING HELL,
STEPPED TAROT, UNHARMED, UNSUNG BY
THE BLAZE!



NOT ONLY IS
TAROT ADEPT AT SPONTANEOUS
COMBUSTION, BUT FIRE-
WALKING AS WELL!

RIGHT,
CASI! BUT IF
YOU HADN'T AWAK-
ENED ME IN
TIME

I'D BE
CHAR-BROILED
RIGHT NOW!



IN A SENSE,
THE RELIGIONS OF THE
WORLD ARE LIKE PEARLS
ON A STRING

AND GOD IS
THE STRING THAT RUNS
THROUGH THEM, UNITING
THEM ALL!



DON'T
LISTEN TO HER
POISON! YOU'LL BURN
IN HELL IF YOU LEAVE
ME! GOD WILL GET
YOU!

COME
BA-A-A-A-CK!!



THEN ST. KNIGHT WHIRLED TO CONFRONT THE SO-CALLED
"MASTER!"

THERE IS A
LESSON TO BE LEARNED
HERE, LUNA! THE ABSOLUTE
DOESN'T SPEAK THROUGH
ONE MOUTH - BUT THROUGH
MANY! NO ONE PERSON HAS
A STRANGLE-HOLD
ON TRUTH!



SHE'S
RIGHT! LUNA ONLY
USED THE LORD AS
AN EXCUSE TO
CONTROL OUR
LIVES!

I'VE HAD
IT WITH HIS
EGO-TRIP!
I'M GOING
HOME!

ME, TOO!

WAIT!
COME BACK!



LUNA'S
SUFFERED ENOUGH!!
HIS POWER OVER
THEM IS FOREVER
BROKEN! WE CAN
DEPART NOW!

SAH
YOU'RE A
REGULAR
MIRACLE
WORKER!

SHE'S
BETTER THAN
THAT, HARRY
MUCH BETTER!

PANTHA



A LITHE, ALMOST FELINE, FORM CROUCHED, TAIT AND ALERT, SENSING EVERY STRAY MOVEMENT BORNE UPON THE BREEZE!

THE QUESTING FORM WAS PANTHA! THE BEAUTIFUL, RAVEN HAURED DRAGONLONE EXAMINED THE SUMMER NIGHT WITH HER ANIMAL-KEEN SENSES.

O'MON, SUCKER! I KNOW YOU'RE SOMEWHERE OUT HERE! BE A GOOD BOY AND SNAP AT THE HIGH CLASS BAIT!

FOR THREE WEEKS NOW, A RAPIST HAD HELD CENTRAL PARK IN AN UNREMITTING GRIP OF TERROR! VIOLATING HIS VICTIMS BEFORE SLASHING THEM, HE MUTILATED THEIR SOFT SKIN BY CARVING HIS INITIALS DEEP INTO THEIR PAINC STRICKEN FLESH!

THE SEX-CRAZED PSYCHOPATH PLAYED A CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME WITH HIS FEMALE PREY, WHILE ELUDING POLICE PARK PATROLS. IT WAS TIME FOR PANTHA TO MEET OUT A BRAND OF JUSTICE EXCLUSIVELY HER OWN.

A NIGHT FULL OF ZOMBIES!



AT FIRST
I WAS GOING TO
SLIP INTO SOME
THING REVEAL-
ING



BUT
THIS SKIMPY
OUTFIT I'VE GOT
ON IS THE MOST SEXY
THING I OWN IN
MY ENTIRE WAR
DROBE AND—

SNAP!



THAT SOUND!
A TWIG SNAPPING UP
AHEAD! IT COULD BE THE
STRAIGHT-EDGE RAPE
ARTIST!

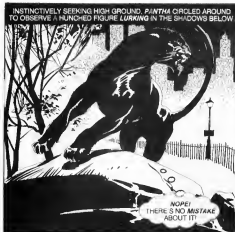
THE LOVELY CONTOURS OF PANTHA'S FACE
BEGAN TO MELT AND MERGE



SO THAT WHERE SHE ONCE STOOD
THERE NOW STOOD A 300-POUND BLACK
JUNGLE SHE-BEAST WITH EYES THAT
BURNED IN THE NIGHT LIKE GREEN-
GLOWING COALS

BUT
BEFORE I
SPRING INTO
ACTION

I
HAVE TO MAKE
SURE!



PANTHA WAS ROUGHLY DRAGGED OFF THE DIMLY-LIT PATH, BEHIND A THICK WALL OF CONCEALING BRUSH SHE WAS THROWN DOWN HARD ONTO THE GROUND!



THE HEAVY-SET RAPIST CRUDELY POUNCED UPON HER WHINING, RESISTING BODY. THE MORE PANTHA STRUGGLED BENEATH HIM, THE MORE HIS INSANE EXCITEMENT GREW!



WITHIN MERE MOMENTS, THE ATTACKER'S MINDLESS LUST REACHED ITS FEVERED PEAK. BUT AT THE PENULTIMATE MOMENT, HE SUDDENLY FOUND HIS LATEST VICTIM WAS MORE THAN HE EVER BARGAINED FOR!





STAY
AWAY FROM
ME YOU,
YOU!



GAAAH!
LEMMIE ALONE!

GROOARI!

LUNGS HEAVING PAINFULLY AND HIS BREATH WHEEZING IN RAGGED GASPS THAT RIPPED HIS THROAT RAW, THE PANIC-STROKEN MOLESTER RAN, STUMBLING, AND RECOVERING, RAN AGAIN!



UNTIL AFTER MANY LONG MINUTES, HE FINALLY REACHED THE END OF HIS STRENGTH AND DESPAIR-INGLY TURNED

S-SH-
SHE'S GONE!!



THANK GOD!
SHE IT THAT
THING TRIED TO
KILL ME.

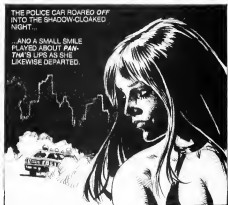


NO-O-O-O!
NOT AGAIN!!

PANTHA KEPT
HARD
RETRACTED
EVEN
HUMANITY
A BLOODY
DED

HER STEEL-
CLAWS SEMI-
TO PREVENT
THIS AROF
FROM BECOMING
MASS OF SHRED-
WHEAT!







AT THE SAME TIME,
WITHIN THE POSH EAST
SIDE VAN HELSING
TOWNHOUSE:

A FEAR-FILLED PHONE CALL WAS
ANSWERED BY PANTHA'S BOY-
FRIEND, ADAM VAN HELSING



HELLO?
DANNY? HAVEN'T
HEARD FROM YOU
IN AGES!

WHOA!
CALM DOWN
FELLA. JUST WHAT
KIND OF TROUBLE
YOU IN?



ADAM!
LISTEN! YOU'RE
MY ONLY FRIEND IN
THIS CITY. THERE'S
A BIG DRUG DEAL
COMIN' DOWN

TONS
OF PRIMO WEED
UP FROM COLUM
BIA. TONIGHT
ON PIER 91!

BUT I'M GETTIN'
COLD FEET. MAN! CAN'T
GO TO THE COPS WITH MY RECORD
THEY'D THROW ME IN THE SLIMMER
FOR GOD KNOWS HOW LONG



I WANT OUT!
YOU'VE GOTTA HELP ME,
ADAM. I-I

AARRGGHH!



DANI
DANIEL? ARE YOU
THERE? ANSWER
ME. I

DANNY!

ADAM SLAMMED THE RECEIVER DOWN AND SHOUTED ORDERS TO HIS COMELY EURASIAN CHAUFFEUR-BODYGUARD!



DAMN LINE WENT DEAD C'MON MOONCHILD WE'VE GOT TO GET TO PIER 91 FAST!

MOONCHILD NODDED AND RUSHED OFF TO PREPARE THE VAN HELSING CHARIOT FOR A BROKENFIELD RUN THROUGH THE HURLY-BURLY OF MANHATTAN'S TRAFFIC!



YOU HAD BETTER JUMP IN MASTER ADAM, BECAUSE THIS ROLLS WILL SIX-ZLE ITS GOOD-YEARS!

HER IMPECCABLE OXFORD ACCENT AND ANGLO-ORIENTAL RESERVE SEEMED TO MELT AWAY AS SHE DEFTLY MANEUVERED THE GLISTENING MACHINE!



IT WAS AS IF MOONCHILD HAD BECOME A VERITABLE DEMONESS!



THE SILVER ROLLS-ROYCE SCREECHED TO A HALT IN RECORD-BREAKING TIME ALONG MANHATTAN'S DISMAL WATERFRONT.



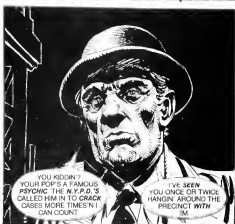
WE HAVE ARRIVED SIR! WHAT SHOULD-I

HE IS GONE WITHOUT A WORD! DON'T NEED MY TALENTS AS A MEDIUM TO SENSE DEATH HANGING HEAVILY IN THE AIR TONIGHT

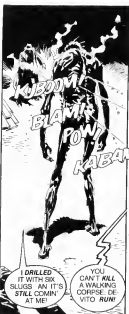


ADAM PROWLED THE SEEMINGLY
DESERTED WHARF, SEARCHING FOR HIS
DRUG-SMUGGLING COLLEGE FRIEND
WHEN SUDDENLY...

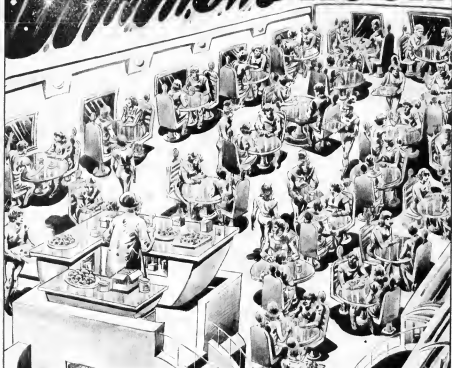








HERSHEY'S ROCK



IF YOU'RE IN A HURRY, **TWA FLIGHT 12, 112** WILL TAKE YOU FROM NEW YORK TO TITAN IN JUST UNDER **EIGHT DAYS**. THE **DAWN TREADER**, HOWEVER, TAKES A FULL **675 HOURS**.

BUT WHO'S COMPLAINING? THE **DAWN TREADER** IS ONE OF THE **PLUSHEST** LUXURY CRUISERS EVER BUILT. IT'S THE **LOVE BOAT** OF THE SPACEWAYS. THE **PERFECT** PLACE TO SPEND A **675 HOUR HONEYMOON**.



YOU'VE BEEN ADMIRING THE VIEW FOR HOURS, ANDIE. LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?

IN A WAY, YES. I WAS HOPING WE'D SEE MORE THAN JUST EMPTY BLACKNESS!



GOOD EVENING
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
I'M THE SHIP'S COMMANDER
SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE
ENTIRE CREW OF THE **DAWN
TREADER**. I'D JUST LIKE
TO ANNOUNCE OUR
SUCCESSFUL PASSAGE
THROUGH THE **ASTEROID
BELT**



WAIT A
MINUTE! THAT...
THAT CAN'T
BE!



I CAN
ASSURE YOU,
MADAM. IT'S
TRUE!

I KEEP
TELLING HER, BUT
SHE DOESN'T BELIEVE
ME!

BUT...
BUT... WHERE ARE
THEY? THE ASTEROIDS
I MEAN!







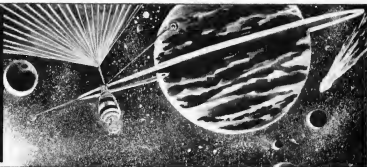
THEY DIDN'T
HAVE FUSION
DRIVE
SPACESHIPS
BACK THEN... SO
THEY USED ALL
KINDS OF PRO-
PULSION TRICKS
TO MOVE
HUMANKIND INTO
SPACE!

BUT NONE OF
THEM WERE
PRETTIER THAN
THE SUNSAILS.
GREAT SILVER
BUTTERFLIES
MILLIONS OF
CENTIMETERS
ACROSS, AND
ONE MOLECULE
THICK, THEY
RODE THE
PHOTON WINDS
OF THE SUN LIKE
THE MAJESTIC
CLIPPERSHIP
OF OLD. IT TOOK
A REAL MASTER
TO FLY 'EM, NOT
JUST ANY OLD
ASSEMBLY-LINE
SPACE JOCKEY
LIKE WE HAVE
TODAY!

THEY WERE IN
SHORT, THE
REAL SPACE
SHIPS.

WITH NOTHING
BUT SUNLIGHT
AND GRAVITY TO
POWER THE
SHIPS, THE SUN-
SAILORS
COULDN'T GET
AROUND THE
SYSTEM ALL
THAT QUICKLY.
BUT, MAN... WERE
THEY GRACEFUL!

ONE PARTICULAR CLIPPER, THE SILVER SURFER, WAS ON THE HOMEWARD LEG OF HER EARTH-TITAN RUN. AFTER EIGHT MONTHS OF INFALLING, SHE WAS JUST REACHING JUPITER, HER HALF WAY POINT



CAPTAIN WILD BILL MARSHALL, COMMANDER OF THE SILVER SURFER, TRIED TO DO A RETROGRADE HYPERBOLIC JUST OVER THE PLANE OF JUPITER'S THIN RING BELT!



YOU'LL NEVER SEE A GOOD IMAGE OF JUPITER'S RINGS FROM EARTH. YOU PRACTICALLY HAVE TO BE ON TOP OF THEM JUST TO SEE THEIR BLACK PROCESSION OVER THE PAINTED WORLD. BUT IT'S SOMETHING A MAN CAN NEVER FORGET ONCE HE SEES IT!

AND WILD BILL MARSHALL WATCHED THEM GO BY AT 180 KILOMETERS A SECOND!



AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW, THE BIG CLIPPERS USED THE GIANT PLANETS FOR GRAVITY WHIPS. THE CLOSER TO ITS MASS THEY ORBITED, THE FASTER THEIR SPEED. UNTIL THEY WERE HURLED OFF LIKE MAMMOTH SHOTPUTS SPEEDING TO THEIR DESTINATION!

AND ALL THEY HAD TO WATCH OUT FOR ARE THE LARGER PLANETS' RINGS!



NOW, YOU WOULDN'T THINK THAT FOUR OR FIVE LITTLE GRAMS OF RING DUST COULD DO MUCH HARM TO A BIG SHIP LIKE THE SURFER! BUT AT THAT SPEED, IT CARRIED THE KINETIC ENERGY OF ABOUT TWENTY KILOGRAMS OF TNT!

GOODNESS!
DIDN'T THE TANK
EXPLODE?

NOPE! THEY
DID AMAZING THINGS BACK
THEN. CONSIDERING THEY DIDN'T
CARRY OXY-HYDRO FILTERS LIKE
THESE HERE. THE TANK WAS BUILT
SPECIFICALLY NOT TO
EXPLODE

BUT NOBODY
EVER TESTED IT FOR
IMPLoding

NOW, FOUR WEEKS
WORTH OF STORED
AIR IN A FEW HOURS
CAN DO WONDERS
FOR YOUR
OUTLOOK ON LIFE.
IT'S HEALTHY, ABUN-
DANT. DOESN'T GIVE
YOU A HANGOVER
AND YOU CAN'T O.D.

BUT I WOULDN'T
RECOMMEND FLY-
ING A SHIP WHILE
OXYGEN DRUNK,
HOWEVER!

TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA HOW
OXY-DRUNK WILD BILL
MARSHALL MUST'VE BEEN,
HE WOULD'VE MISSED
THAT ASTEROID BY FIFTY
KILOMETERS IF ALL HAD
BEEN LEFT ALONE!

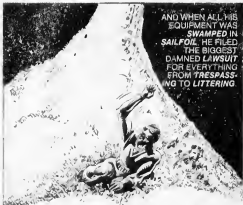
AFTER FOUR DAYS
OF THE DAMN-
DEST PARTY YOU'D
EVER SEEN, THE
SURFER HAPPENED
TO CROSS THE
PATH OF A SMALL
ANOMALY: AN IN-
SIGNIFICANT BALL
OF CARBON AT
THE OUTER
FRINGE OF THE
ASTEROID BELT.

IT'S ONE
THING,
ALBEIT A
BIT EM-
BARASS-
ING, TO
MISS A
SMALL
ROCK
WHILE DO-
ING A
MEAN 120
CLICKS A
SECOND.
BUT YOU'D
REALLY
HAVE TO
BE
SWOC-
KED TO
MISS A 200
METER
TARG-
ET WITH
A TWENTY
KILOM-
ETER SAIL!

TO MAKE THINGS EVEN **MORE** COMPLICATED, THIS PARTICULAR ROCK HAD BEEN CLAIMED BY A WANDERING BELT MINER NAMED **HAWKE**.



AND WHEN ALL HIS EQUIPMENT WAS SWAMPED IN SAILFOIL, HE FILED THE BIGGEST DAMNED LAWSUIT FOR EVERYTHING FROM TRESPASSING TO LITTERING.



WHEN THE **LEGAL BOYS** ON BOTH SIDES GOT AHOLD OF THE ISSUE, THEY HAD A **FIELD DAY**. **WILD BILL'S** LAWYERS COULDN'T DISPROVE **HAWKE'S** CLAIMS, SO THEY WERE FORCED TO COME UP WITH AN **INGENIOUS ANSWER** TO THEIR PERPLEXING DILEMMA.



THEY **BOUGHT** THE ASTEROID FROM **HAWKE**, AND THEN POINTED OUT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERSTELLAR SAFETY THAT THERE WERE NO **NAVIGATIONAL BEACONS** VISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE **WITHIN** THE ASTEROID BELT. BEING THE HIGH-PRICED LEGAL TALENT THAT THEY WERE, THEY SUGGESTED THAT AN **ARRANGEMENT** COULD BE MADE!



AND
SINCE THE
ONLY DANGER
AROUND HERE IS
DYING FROM SLOW
BOREDOM...SWEET-
CAKES AND MY
MAN MUST BE
NECK-DEEP IN
TROUBLE!

BUT
CAPTAIN...WHO'S
HERSHEY? AND WHY IS THE
ROCK NAMED AFTER HIM? WAS
HE SOME BIGWIG LAWYER?
A POLITICIAN...?
WHAT?

WHY, I
WOULD HAVE THOUGHT
YOU'D GUESSED THAT PART
OF IT IMMEDIATELY
MY DEAR!

OH, STEWARD
BRING THAT TRAY
OVER HERE!

WHY.
IT...IT'S AN
OLD-FASHIONED FOIL-
WRAPPED CHOCOLATE
KISS!

IT'S
ALWAYS BEST
TO SWALLOW A SOUR
PUN WITH A LITTLE
SWEETNESS! HAVE
ANOTHER ON
ME -!

prologue



WHEN THE SEASON CHANGED AND THE WEATHER TURNED COLD, THE RATS CAME OUT. AT NIGHT, TRINA COULD HEAR THEM SCRATCHING AND GNAWING BEHIND THE WALLS OF THEIR HOUSE!

SO, MAMA SET TRAPS, BAITED WITH CASHEWS AND PEANUTS, IN THE GARAGE! THERE, IN THE CORNER BEHIND THE FAMILY TURBOCOUP, THE HUNGRY RATS CAME OUT TO FEAST!

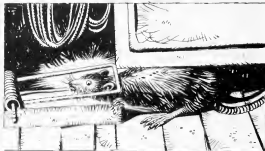


GOD, HOW THEY LOVED CASHEWS!



OH, GOD! IT'S SQUIRMING AND SQUEALING! IT DIDN'T DIE!

WE CAN'T JUST LET IT SUFFER! I'LL FETCH A BUCKET OF WATER!



FRANTICALLY WIGGLING IN THE DARK CORNER, THE DESPERATE RAT STRUGGLED TO FREE ITSELF!



DROP IT IN HERE AND HOLD IT DOWN!



TRAPPED! TERRIFIED! CRUSHED BY FORCES IT COULDN'T COMPREHEND, THE MISERABLE RAT WAS UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING MORE THAN SQUEAK AND WHITTLE!



THAT POOR LITTLE THING. IT'S SO MUCH LIKE ME!

WHEN THE LAST AIR BUBBLE BURST, SO DID THE DAM THAT HELD BACK TRINA'S TEARS.

KILLING IS NEVER EASY, NO MATTER HOW NECESSARY OR MERCIFUL!

WORMBRAND!

THE BABIES CAME THROUGH AT THE RATE OF FIFTEEN PER HOUR IN SEVEN PATENTED DESIGNS. ALL MALE. AFTER "CLEAN AND SPRAY", THEY WENT TO INSPECTION, WHERE FINAL MODIFICATIONS WERE MADE BEFORE PACKAGING AND SHIPPING!

IN ANOTHER FACTORY, MILES AWAY, FEMALES WERE MANUFACTURED!

THOUGH THE PROCESS HAD BEEN DEVELOPED TWO DECADES EARLIER ON EARTH, LIBERALS AND SOCIOLOGISTS HAD LOBBIED AGAINST ITS IMPLEMENTATION. "KEEP BRAVE NEW WORLD FICTION!"

BUT, THE SUNSPORE EPIDEMIC OF 2412 HAD STERILIZED 92% OF GEMINI'S POPULATION.

GEMINI'S WORRIED POPULATION FINALLY SETTLED DOWN AS THE BABY FACTORIES WENT INTO SMOOTH, EFFICIENT AND QUIET PRODUCTION!

EVERY FAMILY COULD ONCE AGAIN HAVE CHILDREN... AND THE LIFE OF AN ENTIRE WORLD SEEMED TO RETURN TO NORMAL!

LATER, THE NEGLIGENT EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBLE WAS SINGLED OUT BY THE CENTRAL COMPUTER AND DISMISSED!

THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE END OF IT BUT AS A SPITEFUL FAREWELL GESTURE THE CANNED WORKMAN REWROTE TWO PSYCHO-GENETIC PROGRAM B.O. RDS!

THERE ISN'T A FACTORY IN THE UNIVERSE THAT DOESN'T HAVE ITS LITTLE GLITCHES! AND THE GEMINI MALE BABY FACTORY #1 WAS NO EXCEPTION!

IN 2428, WHEN NOSTALGIA FOR THE QUIANT 1970'S OF VENERABLE MOTHER EARTH BECAME THE RAGE, DISCO BECAME WILDLY POPULAR, THROBING, FLASHY, AND PULSATING SINGLES BARS OPENED ON ALL PLANETS OF THE GAELN REACH



A YEAR HAD PASSED SINCE MAMA DIED. TRINA NOW LIVED ALONE IN A SMALL UPTOWN CONDO, COMMUTED BY AIR-TRAIN TO WORK BY DAY, AND HAUNTED THE DANCE HALLS BY NIGHT!

THEY'RE PREDATORS, TRINA! ALL OF THEM!

I KNOW! BUT SOME TIMES A WOMAN NEEDS TO BE THE PREY TO BE WANTED ENOUGH TO BE HUNTED!

ISN'T THAT A BIT MASOCHISTIC?



THERE IS A LITTLE BIT OF MASOCHISM IN ALL OF US. WHY ELSE WOULD WE TAKE WHAT LIFE THROWS AT US?

ANYWAY, THERE ARE ONLY TWO OPTIONS - TAKE THE RISK OR SPEND ANOTHER NIGHT ALONE!



HIS NAME WAS CHAPLAIN WORMBRAND, AND WHEN SHE WOKE UP THE NEXT MORNING HE WAS STILL THERE!



TOWARD THE END OF THE SECOND WEEK, SHE ADDED HIS NAME TO THE MAILBOX!

ONCE THEY DECIDED TO SHARE A BABY, THEY WENT TO THE TOTS 'R' US SHOWROOM AND LOOKED OVER THE STANDARDS STOCK, THEY OPTED FOR A CUSTOM DESIGN!

AS YOU KNOW, WE CAN KEY IN ANY PHYSICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAITS YOU DESIRE!

I WANT HIM TO GROW UP TO BE JUST LIKE YOU!



THE ORDER WAS SENT TO THE MANUFACTURER AND TRINA RECEIVED A POSTCARD, TWO WEEKS LATER, SAYING "THE MERCHANDISE YOU ORDERED IS NOW IN STOCK"



NO ONE AT THE FACTORY HAD YET DISCOVERED THE ALTERED CIRCUIT BOARDS

BUT THEN, NINE MONTHS WASN'T ENOUGH TIME TO GET ANY COMPLAINTS ABOUT DEFECTIVE PRODUCTS!

OUTSIDE A WATERFRONT BAR, ALONG THE SUNSET RIVER, ALBERT BLAKE, A RETIRED GARMENT WORKER, WAS MORTALLY MUGGED AND RELIEVED OF 9 23 INTERSTELLAR CREDITS.



HIS ASSAILANT HAD BEEN UNABLE TO FIND A JOB SINCE HIS DISMISSAL FROM THE BABY FACTORY

CHAPLAIN AND TRINA MONITORED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR CUSTOM DESIGNED BABY WITH PATERNAL PRIDE. TIGER WORMBRAND, THOUGH COLIC AND PRONE TO CRYING AT INCONVENIENT HOURS, WAS SINGULARLY PRECOCIOUS!



TIGER WALKED AT THE AGE OF THREE MONTHS!

READING AND VERBAL SKILLS DEVELOPED AT THE AGE OF TWELVE MONTHS!



YET, IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS HE WAS, AS TRINA HAD WISHED, JUST LIKE HER LOVER!

WITHIN A YEAR AND A HALF, THOUSANDS OF CURIOUS AND THEN ALARMING COMPLAINTS BEGAN TO FLOOD THE TOTS 'R' US SHOWROOMS!

TOMORROW MARKS THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF TIGER'S DELIVERY I TELL YOU. SO, I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW FAST THAT KID'S GROWING UP!

LAST NIGHT, HE SAT READING THE COLLECTED WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE LIKE HE KNEW WHAT THEY WERE ALL ABOUT!



SOMETIMES I THINK THE BABY FACTORIES IMPROVED ON MOTHER NATURE!

WINTER WAS SETTING IN. CHAPLAIN COULD SMELL THE FIRST SNOWFALL IN THE AIR AND IT KINDLED MEMORIES OF HIS OWN YOUTH.



HE WAS GRATEFUL THAT HE WAS ONE OF THE LAST CHILDREN BORN OF A HUMAN WOMAN ON GEMINI!

HE HOPED THAT SOMEDAY HE COULD EXPRESS THIS FEELING TO TIGER!



SHOPPING, EH? HOPE YOU HAVEN'T SPENT ALL YOUR MONEY!

CHAPLAIN INSTINCTIVELY CLUTCHED AT HIS WALLET AND THE MEASLY 32.00 CREDITS IT CONTAINED!

A SINGLE ACT OF ANGRY, EMBITTERED DESPERATION WAS ENOUGH TO END ONE HUMAN BEING'S LIFE!



AND WITH IT, ONE INDIVIDUAL'S UNIVERSE OF HOPES, DESIRES, AND ASPIRATIONS BLEW AWAY UNFULFILLED.



IT WAS NO CONSOLATION. THE ONLY THING THAT COULD COMFORT HER WAS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT EVERYTHING CHAPLAIN WAS AND STOOD FOR WOULD BE CARRIED ON THROUGH TIGER.

MEMORIAL SERVICES WERE HELD WHILE TIGER STAYED WITH A BABYSITTER. HE'D BE TOLD, OF COURSE, BUT SHE SAW NO REASON FOR HIM TO ATTEND!

IT WAS, COINCIDENTALLY, THE SAME DAY THAT THE LETTER FROM THE BABY FACTORY ARRIVED!



Mr. or Madam:

We have recently discovered a 'glaring error in the product you recently purchased at our Tots 'R' Us outlet.

The management wants to assure you that there is no cause for alarm. However, the results of a recent audit have shown that the error is unpredictable, and it could be in the best interests of anyone concerned if the product is returned to the nearest Tots 'R' Us outlet for examination and adjustment.

Thank you,

Fred Hains
Fred C. Hains
Quality Control
Supervisor

TIGER DIDN'T MAKE A HABIT OF READING TINA'S MAIL. NONETHELESS, A COMMUNIQUE FROM THE BABY FACTORY HAD SPARKED HIS CURIOSITY.



TIGER FELT A VAGUE SENSE OF DREAD AS HE DROPPED THE LETTER DOWN THE INCINERATOR CHUTE! WHAT DID THEY WANT? WHAT WOULD THEY DO TO HIM?



WHAT'S THE MATTER TIGER? YOU'RE NOT EATING!

NOTHING! I'M JUST NOT HUNGRY!

AT FIRST, SHE ATTRIBUTED HIS LACK OF APPETITE TO TIGER'S ADJUSTMENT OVER CHAPLAIN'S DEATH.



BUT WHEN SHE TOLD TIGER SHE WANTED HIM TO SEE A DOCTOR, THE MALADY DISAPPEARED! HE ATE, HIS ENERGY RETURNED, AND HE PLAYED OUTDOORS WITH OTHER CHILDREN, WHICH HE RARELY DID WHEN CHAPLAIN WAS ALIVE.

HE CONTINUED TO MATURE AT AN ASTOUNDING RATE! FRIENDS FIVE TIMES HIS AGE NEVER GUESSED HE WAS LITTLE MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD.



YET, HE STILL ATE VERY LITTLE, BUT SINCE HE SEEMED HEALTHY ENOUGH, HER CONCERN DIMINISHED.

TIGER! TIGER! DAMN! WHERE IS HE? HE KNOWS I DON'T LIKE HIM OUTSIDE AFTER DARK!



SHE WISHED THERE WAS SOME WAY TO SEPARATE THE BOY FROM THE BEAST! BUT, SHE COULDN'T. EVEN AS SHE STARED, HIS FACE FLICKERED ALTERNATELY, TIGER, THE RAT, TIGER, THE RAT, TIGER, THE RAT...

TIGER!



IT WAS THE FIRST TIME HE'D EVER CALLED HER MAMA!

IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THAT RAT YEARS AGO, SHE'D NEVER HAVE FOUND THE COURAGE! BUT SHE KNEW THAT IF SHE TURNED HER BACK AND LEFT, THE RIVER MAY WELL HAVE WASHED HIM ASHORE ALIVE, TO FEED AGAIN ON SOME OTHER INNOCENT CHILD!



SHE CLOSED HER EYES, PICTURING THE RAT, HEARING THE RUSH OF AIR BUBBLES AS IF SHE SWAM IN A BOIL (WGPOT)

WHEN THE SOUND STOPPED, SHE LOOKED DOWN AT THE SWOLLEN, PURPLE THING IN HER HANDS. SHE FELT LEADEN, AND FOR A MOMENT, FEARED SHE WOULD SINK STRAIGHT TO THE BOTTOM!

SHE KNEW TOO THAT THE ONLY THING SEPARATING HER FROM TIGER, AND FROM THAT RAT, WAS THAT SHE WAS THE DROWNER AND THEY THE DROWNED. WHEN THE TIME CAME SHE WOULD PROBABLY ACT NO DIFFERENTLY THAN THEY DID!



KILLING IS NEVER EASY. NO MATTER HOW NECESSARY OR MERCIFUL!



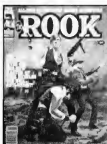
SHE WENT HOME TO CRY WHILE SHE STILL COULD!

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IRON-ONS: Han Solo, Darth Vader, R2D2, C3PO, Chewbacca, Yoda, Boba Fett, and more! Brilliant full color iron-ons imbedded with sparkle glitter will turn anything into an aura of color!



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THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

**STAR
NEW!
WARS**

ACTION FIGURES

The latest and greatest set of action figures from the Empire Strikes Back! All are approximately 3 7/8" high, with fully moveable body parts, incredible detailing & costuming! Construct your own adventures beyond the stars with all of these exciting new action figures!



PRINCESS LEIA Wearing a Beapin gown and comes with black laser pistol! #26221—\$3.75



YODA An authentically sculpted figure with robe, belt, snake & glimmerstick! #26265—\$3.75



HAN SOLO Dressed in Hoth ice-planet battle gear with a black laser rifle! #26225—\$3.75



LANDO CALRISSIAN Leader of Cloud City. He carries a black laser blaster! #26227—\$3.75

EXCITING NEW MODEL KITS FROM THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK!



**STAR
DESTROYER**

The incredibly awesome Star Destroyer, dreaded death dealing dreadnought of the Empire, is a whopping 17" long, molded in color and comes with a display stand! Molded in the minutest detail, you will find all the surface features of the original! Easy to assemble kit! #24255—\$11.95



**SNOW
SPEEDER**

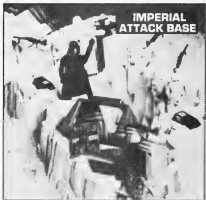
Rebel forces on the planet Hoth take on the evil Empire with these swift battle hardened speedsters! This 8" long replica includes moving laser pods, landing gear, pilot and gunner figures and moving air brakes! This easy to assemble model kit includes a display stand! #24254—\$6.49

NEW ADVENTURE SETS FROM THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK!



**HOTH
ICE-PLANET**

HOTH ICE-PLANET ADVENTURE SET Rebel soldiers attempt to defend their planet with radar laser cannon! But the Imperial Stormtroopers march over the molded snow peaks with all Terrain Armored Transport "walkers"! The set also includes ice-levers for mock action battles, plus manually operated elevator. Easily assembled. #26232—\$13.95



**IMPERIAL
ATTACK BASE**

IMPERIAL ATTACK BASE Imperial forces in ice-carved trenches battle rebels with a realistic sounding laser machine gun. Hand operated ice levers create action by collapsing ice bridge, exploding a mine and blowing up the command post. Assembly required. The action figures are sold separately. #26233—\$15.95

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A SUPER SELECTION FOR SUPERMAN COLLECTORS

SUPERMAN PILLOW CASE! This red, white & blue pillow case comes with the Superman logo, scenes from Krypton & of Superman flying up & away through a midnight blue sky! 100% cotton & machine washable! #21125—\$21.50



SUPERMAN BLANKET: A gigantic 72" x 90" red, white & blue cotton packed blanket of 100% colorfast acrylic, machine washable! With and without a tie! #21102—\$11.75



SUPERMAN MODEL KIT: Superman stands 9" high in this dynamic model kit as he battles in a well! Order! #24211—\$3.00



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SUPERMAN BLUEPRINTS: 15 wonderfully detailed blueprints of the exotic sets from the Superman movie including the Fortress of Solitude and much more! 10 1/2" x 14 1/2" #21353—\$6.95



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Now you can own all 65 cards and 11 gun-backed stickers from the rare 5th series of STAR WARS bubblegum trading cards! These are no longer available in stores or from the manufacturer and prices on the collectors market are soaring! We have a limited number of these complete sets. Each card and sticker measures 2 1/2" x 3 1/2" and is in full color. Once our exclusive collection is gone, this offer cannot be repeated! **ORDER YOURS NOW!**
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STAR WARS

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3 SUPER 8 MOVIES WITH SOUND IN FULL COLOR!



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS The movie that started it all. Science fiction at its best about the epochal visit of aliens to Earth. We are not alone! All the action and adventure plus the fantastic music from the original. 18 minutes, 400 foot super 8, in a superb color & sound film! #22125—\$59.95



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Zooming in from the far reaches of outer galactic space, ZODAR, alien from the planet Tobor, on the far side of the Blue Drift in the Andromeda Galaxy, unleashes his neutron energized propellers against the helpless inhabitants of the Milky Way. This the only hounded warrior comes equipped with 2 windup propellers that can fly up to 40 feet. Zodar's movable, jointed arms can crush mere protoplasm! Painted in barbaric reds and yellows, Zodar.

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ACTION ATTACK WARRIORS



ZOARK ACTION ATTACK WARRIOR

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THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

1981 CALENDAR

1981 EMPIRE STRIKES BACK CALENDAR 12 fabulous 12 1/2" x 13 1/2" full color pictures from the best movie of 1980! Also included is a full color centerfold of the battle on the ice planet Hoth between rebel forces and those of the Empire! Centerfold is 24 1/2" x 13 1/2" in full blazing color! Included are the mystic Yoda, Darth Vader, a saber fight between Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia, Han Solo and all your favorite droids! Don't miss this calendar!

#25268—\$6.95



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ROCKET & STARSHIP CUT-OUTS: You color them, cut them out and proudly display them! Intricately designed alien and terrestrial starships to dog fight with or fly a race thru time and space! These rocket and starship cut-outs are imaginatively designed with "hardwired" effects and are sleek and sturdy! A full dozen to a packet. Mysterious alien star-cruisers, mother-ships and Saemo fighters in the shapes of lissome dragons and bats battle thru the void at your command! Order all these today!

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

TAUNTAUN ACTION FIGURE



TAUNTAUN ACTION CREATURE The incredible snow creature from the ice planet Hoth that carries Han Solo on a dangerous mission across the icy wastes. An especially designed trap door on the Tauntaun's back allows for the insertion of your action figure. When the action figure is removed, the trap door closes. The Tauntaun stands on his hind legs which are movable as are his paws. This action figure is molded in detailed gray and brown plastic for that authentically furry appearance! #26231—\$12.95

TWIN POD CLOUD CAR



TWIN POD CLOUD CAR This celestial cloud car cruises the cinereal skyways of the vital mining colony of Bespin. Pods have clear canopies that open and close easily for entry of your action figures. The cloud car comes complete with manually operable landing gear for fast take-offs and landings! #26235—\$11.95

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ARMORED SNOW SPEEDER This highly maneuverable speedster is used to defend the rebel base on the ice planet Hoth! Cockpit canopy opens to admit the pilot and gunner action figures. Complete with pulsating lasers and laser sound plus removable harpoon for hand combat! Batteries not included. #26236—\$21.95

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C-3PO Switcheroo #26242—\$4.50

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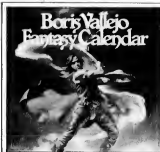


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BUCK ROGERS ACTION SET: For the best action adventure in the 25th century this set contains 1 space dome, 6 space buildings, 3 Thunder fighters, 2 Hatcher lighter craft, 6 movie cast figures, 16 spacemen, 16 space creatures, a diorama and an instruction sheet. Buck Rogers set! #26146—\$6.50

BUCK ROGERS

NEW!

BUCK ROGERS ADVENTURE

in the 25TH CENTURY

NEW MODEL KITS YOU ASSEMBLE

BUCK ROGERS MARAUDER



MARAUDER: The very first and most celebrated of all our space heroes has rocketed back onto the big screen and into our homes on T.V. in all new adventures! Here is the sleek and deadly Marauder which engages Buck in exciting space battles! The Draconian fighter is 10 1/2" long and has a wingspan of 7 1/2"! Color molded in authentic orange plastic with transparent windshield, highly detailed cockpit and a sturdy stand for display!

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BUCK ROGERS STARFIGHTER: Out of the past rockets Buck Rogers, newly awakened from centuries of frozen sleep! Buck wages war among the stars in his own super sophisticated Starfighter. Molded in highly detailed color plastic, Buck's easy to assemble ship is 11 3/8" long and 6 1/4" wide. It comes with authentic details, transparent windshield, highly detailed cockpit and a very sturdy support base for display!

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NEW BUCK ROGERS PRE-ASSEMBLED MODEL KITS



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STAR FIGHTER

DRACONIAN MARAUDER AND STAR FIGHTER: The Draconian Marauder, at right, is the lean, mean fighter of the asteroid based Draconians! They've hatched a scheme to conquer the universe and the Earth is first! This deadly ship is authentic to the last detail and has retractable landing gear & hinged cockpit that can fit the 3 1/2" Buck Rogers action figure! The Star Fighter is Buck Rogers own lighter right out of the 25th century. With authentic styling, hinged canopy and a retractable landing gear, you can slip a 3 1/2" Buck Rogers into this craft too! Blast off to exciting action adventure!



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DRACONIAN MARAUDER

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KANE



KANE: Power mad dictator, Kane is out to kill Buck! #25235—\$4.50

BUCK ROGERS



BUCK ROGERS: Fully movable 3 1/2" figure with gun! #26150—\$4.50

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DRACONIAN GUARD: A warrior of the asteroids! #26154—\$4.50

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TWIKI: It's Buck's trusty robot companion! #26163—\$4.50

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